

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A non-toxic biodegradable plant protein composite, said composite comprising: 5 to 90 parts by weight soy protein; and 90 to 5 parts by weight of a polylactide, wherein said composite total does not exceed 100 parts.

Claim 2 (Original) The plant protein composite of claim 1 wherein the composite includes at least 25% by weight of the polylactide.

Claim 3 (Original) The plant protein composite of claim 1 wherein the composite includes at least 50% by weight of the polylactide.

Claim 4 (Original) The plant protein composite of claim 1 further including a compatibilizer, said compatibilizer being selected from the group consisting of a poly(2-alkyl-2-oxazoline), a poly(2-phenyl-2-oxazoline), and an epoxy/hydroxyl functionalized polybutadiene.

Claim 5 (Original) The plant protein composite of claim 4 wherein the poly(2-alkyl-2-oxazoline) is selected from the group consisting of poly(2-methyl-2-oxazoline), poly(2-ethyl-2-oxazoline), and poly(2-propionyl-2-oxazoline).

Claim 6 (Original) The plant protein composite of claim 5 wherein the poly(2-alkyl-2-oxazoline) is poly(2-ethyl-2-oxazoline).

Claim 7 (Original) The plant protein composite of claim 4 wherein the composite contains 2 parts by weight compatibilizer.

Claim 8 (Original) The plant protein composite of claim 1 wherein the plant protein is acetylated.

Claim 9 (Original) The plant protein composite of claim 1 further including a cross-linking agent.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) The plant protein composite of claim 8 ~~9~~ wherein the cross-linking agent is selected from the group consisting of glutaric dialdehyde, epichlorohydrin, formaldehyde, glyoxal, ~~adipic/acetic~~ adipic anhydride, acetic anhydride, zinc sulfate, and calcium chloride.

Claim 11 (Original) The plant protein composite of claim 10 wherein the cross-linking agent is glutaric dialdehyde or epichlorohydrin.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended) The plant protein composite of claim 9 ~~10~~ which includes from about 0-0.6 parts by weight glutaric dialdehyde.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) The plant protein composite of claim 9 ~~10~~ which includes from about 0-0.4 parts by weight epichlorohydrin.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) The plant protein composite of claim 1 which further includes a plasticizer, said plasticizer being selected from the group consisting of ~~0-50%~~ up to 50% by weight glycerol and ~~0-30%~~ up to 30% by weight propylene glycol.

Claim 15 (Original) The plant protein composite of claim 14 which includes 10-30% by weight glycerol.

Claim 16 (Original) The plant protein composite of claim 14 which includes 10-20% by weight propylene glycol.

Claim 17 (Original) A method for making a biodegradable plant protein composite comprising: combining 5 to 90 parts by weight plant protein with a 90 to 5 parts by weight

polylactide to form a mixture; and extruding said mixture at a temperature sufficient to make the mixture extrudable; wherein said composite total does not exceed 100 parts.

Claim 18 (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the plant protein is soy protein.

Claim 19 (Canceled)

Claim 20 (Original) The method of claim 17 further comprising adding a compatibilizer to the mixture.

Claim 21 (Original) The method of claim 17 further comprising adding a cross-linking agent to the mixture.

Claim 22 (Original) The method of claim 17 further comprising adding a plasticizer to the mixture.

Claim 23 (Original) A non-toxic biodegradable plant protein composite comprising: soy protein; at least 25% by weight of a polylactide; a compatibilizer; said compatibilizer being selected from the group consisting of a poly(2-alkyl-2-oxazoline) and a poly(2-phenyl-2-oxazoline); a cross-linking agent, said cross-linking agent being selected from the group consisting of glutaric dialdehyde and epichlorohydrin; and a plasticizer, said plasticizer being selected from the group consisting of glycerol and propylene glycol.